



Bitterroot National Forest

1801 N. 1st Street, Hamilton, MT 59840 (406) 363-7100

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Nan Christianson
Acting Public Affairs Officer
(406) 363-7113**

Late Afternoon Update on Fire Starts from Thursday's Lightning Storm Show

HAMILTON, MT; JUNE 29, 2007, 4:30PM. --- Late afternoon update regarding three new fire starts on the Bitterroot National Forest:

- McClain Fire received immediate attention from Forest and Florence Volunteer Fire Department firefighters on Thursday evening and was caught – and declared out – at less than 1/10 acre in size.
- The Tie Chute has 5 Bitterroot NF firefighters working on it. It remains small, at less than 1/10 of an acre and is burning in heavy downed timber. It is located south of the Carlton Creek drainage northwest of Florence and was reported by air patrol on Friday morning.
- The North Sharrot Fire is also at 1/10 of an acre and is staffed by three Stevensville Ranger District firefighters. It is located along the Saint Mary's face west of Stevensville.

It is especially important for Forest visitors to remember that fireworks are not allowed on National Forest System lands. Fire danger is considered moderate to high, and the potential for fires to start and spread quickly cannot be underestimated, especially as conditions continue to warm up and dry out.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Bitterroot NF Fire Management Officer Rick Floch will host a media briefing to explain current and projected wildfire conditions on the Bitterroot National Forest. The meeting will be held at the Forest Dispatch Center at the Ravalli County airport on Tuesday, July 3rd 2007.

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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